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Message Text

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46
ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-02 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 PRS-01 PA-01

USIA-06 SS-15 NSC-05 EA-06 /065 W
---------- 012773
R 200843Z MAR 75
FM AMEMBASSY OSLO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9468
INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAIR, XZ, NO
SUBJECT: CIVIL AIR: CAPACITY TALKS WITH SCANDINAVIANS

REFS: (A) STATE 44013; (B) CANBERRA 1269;
(C) OSLO 766; (D) OSLO 792

1. FOLLOWING RECEIPT OF WALDMAN MESSAGE IN STATE 44013,
BOEGH MADE FOLLOWING COMMENTS REGARDING CAPACITY TALKS:

(A) HE HAD AND STILL HAS NO WISH TO PRESENT PAN AM/
SAS CARRIER TALKS OR GOVERNMENT CONSULTATIONS AS A CON-
TINUING PROBLEM WHICH GOVERNMENTS HAD BEEN UNABLE TO SOLVE
OR AS HAVING BEEN BROKEN OFF AS A CONSEQUENCE OF A
FUNDAMENTAL DISAGREEMENT. HIS INTENT IN BOTH HIS MESSAGE
TO WALKMAN (OSLO 766) AND IN THE PRESS RELEASE ISSUED
BY THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (OSLO 792) WAS TO
DEFUSE A POTENTIALLY EXPLOSIVE SITUATION.
ISSUE HAD BEEN GIVEN CONSIDERABLE ADVERSE PUBLICITY
IN SCANDINAVIAN PRESS. UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES BOEGH
FELT OBLIGED TO ISSUE PRESS STATEMENT. STATEMENT
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ITSELF WAS INTENDED TO PLAY UP POSITIVE SIDE OF

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RESULTS OF PAN AM/SAS TALKS AND TO PLAY DOWN FACT
THAT FULL AGREEMENT WAS NOT REACHED.

(B) REGARDING WALDMAN MESSAGE TO BOEGH THAT HE
"CANNOT AGREE THAT WE HAVE AN AGREEMENT OR THAT THERE
IS NO NEED FOR FURTHER CONSULTATIONS." BOEGH SAID
THAT HIS MESSAGE TO WALDMAN HAD SAID "IN THE CIRCUM-
STANCES THERE IS NO NEED TO HOLD FURTHER CONSULTATIONS"
AND THAT HIS PRESS RELEASE HAD CONTAINED SIMILAR QUALIFICA-
TION. HE HAD NOT MEANT TO FORECLOSE POSSIBILITY OF
FURTHER CONSULTATIONS BUT MERELY TO NOTE THAT IN THE
CIRCUMSTANCES FURTHER CONSULTATIONS MIGHT NOT BE
PRODUCTIVE.

(C) THE "CIRCUMSTANCES" IN SUBPARA (B) ABOVE REFER
TO SCHANDINAVIAN BELIEF THAT SAS IS OPERATING IN COMFORMITY
WITH AGREEMENTS WITH THE U.S. (THIS INCLUDES SIXTH
FREEDOM TRAFFIC) AND THAT THE SCANDINANVIAN COUNTRIES
HAVE PROVIDED CONVINCING EVIDENCE TO THIS EFFECT.
ACCORDING TO BOEGH, AS LONG AS IT CANNOT BE SHOWN THAT
SAS HAS OPERATED IN VIOLATION OF THE BI-LATERAL AGREE-
MENTS WITH THE U.S., SAS GOVERNMENTS ARE LEGALLY POWER-
LESS TO TELL SAS HOW TO SCHEDULE ITS NORTH ATLANTIC
FLIGHTS.

(D) REGARDING SIXTH FREEDOM, BOEGH REFERRED
TO THE SCANDINAVINA STATEMENT OF NOVEMBER 22, 1974
WHICH WAS PREPARED DURING THE CONSULTATIONS AFTER
TWO ROUNDS OF DISCUSSION IN A MIXED GROUP WHICH
EXAMINED THE STATISTICAL MATERIAL PROVIDED BY THE TWO
SIDES. ACCORDING TO BOEGH, THE EXAMINATION WAS
INCONCLUSIVE IN SO FAR AS THE SAMPLING METHODS OF THE
GROUPS WERE DIFFERENT (US.S. 10 PERCENT RANDOM SAMPLE AGAINST
SAS TRAFFIC COUNT IN EIGHT WEEKS OVER TWO YEARS).
BOEGH BELIEVES, HOWEVER, THAT SCANDINANVIAN STATISTICS
WERE GENERALLY CONSISTENT WITH BILATERALS, THAT THE
U.S. SIDE ACCEPTED THE SCANDINAVIAN DATA IN PRINCIPAL,
AND THAT THE U.S. AGREED THAT DIRECT TRAFFIC VOLUME
SEEMED LARGER THAN INDICATED BY U.S. FIGURES. BOEGH
ALSO MENTIONED THAT AT NO TIME SINCE THE NOVEMBER CON-
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SULTATIONS HAS THE QUESTION OF STATISTICAL INTERPRETA-
TION BEEN RAISED BY THE U.S.

2. WITHOUT COMMENTING ON ISSUES, EMBASSY AGREES THAT
BOEGH HAS SUCCEEDED IN DEFUSING A PTENTIALLY SERIOUS
POLITICAL SITUATION IN SCANDINAVIAN. ALTHOUGH SUR-
PRISED AT THE STRONGLY WORDED NATURE OF WALDMAN'S
LAST MESSAGE, BOEGH APPEARS OPEN TO SUGGESTIONS FOR ANY

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FURTHER STEPS OF INITIATIVES WHICH MIGHT CONTRIBUTE TO
RESOLUTION OF OUTSTANDING ISSUES.
BYRNE

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